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USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

SOURCE Experienced British radio technician has submitted the following report:

A. RECEIVERS1. Radio Sets

The number of licensed sets in January 1948 was officially stated to be 220,000. But 70 per cent are over eight years old and spare parts are very difficult to obtain. Radio officials had to admit that probably only about 50 per cent of the total are shortwave sets. On the other hand, the average number of listeners per set tends to be high: three to four, most listeners agreed, would be a conservative estimate.

2. Geographical Distribution

The distribution of sets between the different Republics is very uneven. Radio officials state there are now 42,000 in Slovenia (one for every twenty-seven inhabitants), and 90,000 in Croatia (one for thirty-nine inhabitants), but in Macedonia, according to a recent statement, there are only 521 sets, (one for 710 inhabitants).

3. New Sets

The manufacture and distribution of wireless sets is under government control. Sets are sold through the official Radio Centers or licensed radio dealers. No new sets are being imported and the supply is chronically short. Phillips have lost their concession to assemble sets in Yugoslavia. The Yugoslavs have announced a production target of 150,000 wireless sets as part of the Five Year Plan. Yugoslav 'Kosmaj' sets are beginning to appear in the Radio Centers at Belgrade and Zagreb. This is a four-tube (three plus one) set for all wave-lengths. It is poorly finished according to our standards. The 'J' type sells at Dinars 5,000 (£25) and the 'B' type, the same set slightly better finished, at Dinars 5,500 (£27. 10. 0.), the equivalent of the monthly salary of a skilled worker or senior civil servant. The sets are labelled "Home Production", but inquiry in the Radio Centers and from Radio Belgrade revealed that the tubes, resistance, condensor block and almost all other parts are imported from Hungary and the sets themselves are merely assembled in a small factory near Belgrade. I was assured by Radio Belgrade that this is a temporary measure and that the Yugoslavs hope to begin production themselves very shortly. The tubes used are Tungstan. It is hoped also to put a two-tube 'Kozara' set on the market shortly. I was assured that this will be an all wave-length receiver.

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RETURN TO ARCHIVES & RECORDS CENTER

IMMEDIATELY AFTER USE

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4. Sets Sold Only to Licensed Customers

A special license has to be obtained for the purchase of a new set. In general they are sold only to institutions or privileged individuals. On visiting the co-operative farm 'Zelezni Dveri' near Ljutomer in Slovenia, I was surprised to find that fourteen sets had been acquired by members of the Co-operatives during the past year. It seems likely that quite a number of the sets available may be purchased by the new Co-operative Centers in the villages.

5. Spare Parts

Spare parts are also in short supply. The Radio Centers are prepared to repair existing sets but are often hampered by lack of material. The private owner with no official pull has to turn to the Black Market, which is not very extensive. A tube on the Black Market in Belgrade costs Dinars 1,000 (45) and a four-tube radio set, when obtainable, anything from Dinars 10,000 (450) upwards.

3. YUGOSLAV BROADCASTING

1. General Organization

The organization consists of a Radio Committee in Belgrade, which is the co-ordinating body both for the broadcasting system and for the radio industry, and the six stations of the Republics, Radios Belgrade, Zagreb, Ljubljana, Sarajevo, Cetinje and Skoplje, each responsible for broadcasts to its own Republic. The first three of these have relay stations. The Yugoslav Foreign Language Service on shortwave is under the control of Radio Belgrade. Details of the organization and names of the leading personalities are shown on the appended chart.

2. Six Networks

The system of separate networks for each Republic may well be correct from the political point of view - language difficulties would, in any case, necessitate separate stations at Belgrade, Skoplje and Ljubljana - but the system tends to make Yugoslav broadcasting very parochial. This tendency is exaggerated by the fact that music can be relayed only in Slovenia owing to the deficient telephone system elsewhere. Each station is thus dependent on its own resources.

3. Transmitters

Some of the details given about transmitters on the appended chart are likely shortly to be changed. The Yugoslavs have announced that by the end of the Five Year Plan (1951) the total strength of their stations will reach 350 kw. Present strength is about 150 kw. Developments which can be expected shortly are: (1) A new transmitter for Montenegro, probably 20 kw. to bring this station up to the same strength as the other Republics. (2) The building up of the shortwave transmitters of the Foreign Language Service from Belgrade. The total strength of these is to be increased to 210 kw. by 1951. (3) A new medium wave station for Belgrade is being constructed at Obrenovac (about 20 miles SW of Belgrade). It is not clear if this is the 150 kw. medium wave station which the Yugoslavs announced they would construct under the Five Year Plan.

4. Who Provides the New Equipment?

The 20 kw. stations recently erected at Skoplje and Sarajevo were provided by the Compagnie Francaise Thomson-Houston. The French Company has also erected a new transmitter at Tirana and it has orders for one more transmitter for the Yugoslavs.

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I was told by a junior official of Radio Belgrade that Belgrade's new medium-wave stations will be provided by the Russians. On the other hand, a radio official of Zagreb told me that negotiations are in progress to purchase transmitters from Brown Boverie of Switzerland.

Radio officials at Zagreb and Ljubljana state that the transmitters recently installed at Ljubljana, Zagreb and Rijeka (Fiume) were constructed in the radio workshops at Zagreb and Ljubljana. The Yugoslavs state they can make all parts except the tubes.

5. Studios

Radio Belgrade has three studios at present. They are primitive in the extreme and have no control cubicles. They are, however, provisional. Radio Belgrade has just moved to the Zanatski Dom, a large building in the center of the town, and I was told that seven talks studios and three music studios are being constructed there.

6. News

Radio Belgrade broadcasts five news bulletins daily in its Home Service (at 07.00, 15.00, 19.00, 22.00 and 23.00). The news from Belgrade at 22.00 is relayed by all other stations. This is the only nation-wide relay, with the exception of important speeches by Marshal Tito or some other leading personality. Most of the other stations do three news bulletins of their own daily besides relaying the 22.00 bulletin from Belgrade.

7. Programs

Belgrade, Zagreb and Ljubljana are on the air for about eleven hours daily, with extra time on Sundays. Skoplje broadcasts about seven hours daily, Sarajevo six hours and Cetinje about four and a half hours. Yugoslav programs contain a great deal of music. Talks are frequently addressed to some particular organization: To the Women's Front, to the Youth Organization, to Trade Unions etc. Belgrade has a special drama section, but it performs only occasionally and the production leaves much to be desired. Religious broadcasts, for which Ljubljana was noted before the war, are conspicuous by their absence.

8. Music

I understand the Ljubljana Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Mario Kozina, is the best in the country. The Orchestra at Zagreb is also said to be good. Interesting folk music could obviously be obtained from Yugoslavia, but, unfortunately, recording facilities are almost non-existent. A Radio Committee official told me it is not unusual to call the Belgrade Symphony Orchestra twice to the studio in one week to play the same item, because records are simply not available. He showed me charts of the dispatch of music to Czechoslovakia and Poland, with both of whom Yugoslavia has a radio agreement. There were several crosses on each chart and these signified failure to dispatch the agreed quota of music.

9. Broadcasts for Minorities

An interesting feature of Yugoslav Radio is that special transmissions are broadcast for the minorities in Yugoslavia. Thus, Radio Rijeka (Fiume) which relays Zagreb in Croat, also does news and programs of its own in Italian for the Italian minority in Istria. Similarly, Pristina and Zajecar, relay stations for Belgrade in Serb, broadcast also in Albanian and Rumanian respectively for the minorities in these areas. Skoplje broadcasts in Albanian and Turkish as well as in Macedonian (its main language).

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10. Licenses

A license for a wireless set is obtained not from the Post Office but from the chief Radio Station in each Republic; that is from Radio Belgrade in Serbia, Radio Zagreb in Croatia etc. The license fee is payable quarterly in advance and is Dinars 40 monthly (42. 8. 0. a year) in Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia, and Dinars 30 monthly (41. 16. 0. a year) in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Macedonia.

C. ORGANIZATION1. YUGOSLAV RADIO COMMITTEE

President: Jovan Marinovic
 Secretary General: Velko Korac
 Director of Planning: Ante Novak
 Director of Radio Industry: Slobodan Nikicenovic

2. SERBIA

Radio Belgrade: 686 kcs; 20 kw. Director: Prvoslav Vasiljevic
 1438 kcs; 2.5 kw.
 Relay stations:
 Zajecar: 1300 kcs; .4 kw.
 Pristina: 1302 kcs; .5 kw.

Foreign Language Broadcasts

Radio Belgrade: 6100 kcs; 4 kw. Director: Nikolic
 6140 kcs; 10 kw. Director of Programs:
 9505 kcs; Zdenko Rajk

3. SLOVENIA

Radio Ljubljana: 527 kcs; 20 kw. Director: Vosnjak
 Relay stations:
 Ajdovscina: 527 kcs; 1.2 kw.
 Kranj: 527 kcs; 4 kw.
 Maribor: 668 kcs; 5 kw.

4. MONTENEGRO

Radio Cetinje: 1377 kcs; .2 kw. Director: Spillar

5. BOSNIA-HERZOGOVINA

Radio Sarajevo: 1086 kcs; 20 kw. Director: Miss Tanica Kurtovic

6. MACEDONIA

Radio Skoplje: 1240 kcs; 20 kw. Director: Ilija Topalovski

7. CROATIA

Radio Zagreb: 629 kcs; 20 kw. Director: Zmazek
 Relay stations:
 Osijek: 1240 kcs; .2 kw.
 Dubrovnik: 1420 kcs; .3 kw.
 Rijeka (Fiume): 767 kcs; 20 kw.

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